



ESTABLISHED 1879

ASBURY PARK PRESS

Approved For Release 2002/05/07 : CIA-RDP79M00467A002700040016-2

PRESS PLAZA, ASBURY PARK, N.J. 07712
201-774-7000

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76-6169/1

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Jan. 12, 1976

Dear Mr. Colby:

STATINTL

Thank you very much for agreeing through [redacted] to participate in our weekly Press Conference feature.

We are scheduling the William Colby one for Jan. 25 publication.

Enclosed are tear sheets to give you an idea of the format -- also, the questions.

We would appreciate receiving the answers by Tuesday, Jan. 20.

I expect to be on vacation at that time, and would appreciate your addressing the answers to Gordon Guist or Elmer Curran, who are associate editors on the Sunday staff.

Again, thank you for your cooperation -- and wish every good/in whatever you do.

Sincerely,

Si Liberman
Si Liberman
Sunday Editor

Mr. William Colby
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Langley, Va.

STATINTL →

Copy: [redacted]
SL/e

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Questions . . .

Q. Knowing what you know today about the CIA and the image-shattering public disclosures of its questionable activities, would you have agreed to ~~the~~ direct the agency when the job was offered to you by then President Nixon? And what instructions, if any, did he give to you?

Q. How does the CIA arrive at its decisions when the questions of paying off officials in another country or providing arms for a clandestine operation arise?

Q. What do you consider the major achievement of the CIA during your tenure as director?

Q. How were you informed that you would be replaced as director? Was it expected?

Q. Did the CIA assign, direct, and control paramilitary operations in Indochina, using U.S. servicemen to make reconnaissance and espionage missions into North Vietnam and Communist-controlled areas of Laos and Cambodia during the Indochina War? If so, was it a violation of U.S. policy to operate within the borders of South Vietnam?

Q. What impact, if any, has the recent disclosures of CIA activities that were illegal had on the Central Intelligence Agency's operations?

Q. Occasionally, one hears about or reads stories about double agents. Has the CIA -- as far as you know -- been involved with any? What was the outcome?

Q. How many persons does the CIA have on its payroll? And in how many countries? How many agents are working under false identifications?

Q. How can I become a CIA agent?

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Q. Do you think ~~the~~ CIA personnel should be held criminally liable for activities now considered illegal by the Justice Department? How have those things been resolved in the past?

Q. Have any agents left the CIA as a result of the disclosures of possible illegal activities?

Q. Do you think a publication that identifies a CIA operative should be liable for criminal prosecution? And do you think the publication of Richard Welch's name as a CIA station chief in Athens led to his assassination? Has the CIA ~~done anything~~

~~xxxxxx~~
have any idea who was responsible for the killing -- I mean who pulled the trigger?

Q. Have you been in touch with former President Nixon since he left the White House? What was the occasion or purpose? ~~xxxxxx~~

Q. What do you think is the greatest need of the CIA today?

Q. What are your plans for the future?

#

FROM:

TO:

ER NO.

Mr. Thuermer
Asst/DCI

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76-6169

13 Jan 76

CLASS.

Uncl.

SUB: Yellow Routing Slip: Subj; here are the questions
from the Asbury (NJ) Press with our suggested
answers-of course, it is permissible not to answer
some questions if you do not wish to
Att: as stated above
13 Jan 76 Orig w/att to DCI via ES fm Asst/DCI
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Executive Registry's references are in DCI's office.

ER.

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